



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:**

Hitoshi Inoue

**Application No.:** 10/702,170**Filed:** November 4, 2003

**For:** IMAGE PROCESSING  
 APPARATUS, METHOD OF SETTING  
 TONAL GRADATION CONVERSION  
 CHARACTERISTICS, AND  
 COMPUTER PROGRAM

**Examiner:** Unassigned**Art Unit:** 2621**Confirmation No.:** 7303

April 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

These documents were cited during prosecution of the European Patent Application corresponding to the above U.S. Application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated March 5, 2004, is enclosed. In view of this dates, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a First Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C. F. R. § 1.97 (b) (3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form and independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO/SB/08A.

Respectfully submitted,



Fidel D. Nwamu  
Reg. No. 46,294

CANON U.S.A., INC.  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION  
3300 North First Street  
San Jose, CA 95134

Tel: (408) 468-2000  
Tel: (408) 468-2514  
Fax: (408) 468-2509



PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 08/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/702,170
		Filing Date	11/4/03
		First Named Inventor	Hitoshi Inoue
		Art Unit	2621
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	84	Attorney Docket Number	CFA00050US

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): -Copies of cited reference in IDS
Remarks		

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Canon U.S.A., Inc. IP Department Fidel Nwamu
Signature	
Date	4/7/04

### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Fidel Nwamu
Signature	
	Date 4/7/04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 180.00)

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/702,170
Filing Date	11/4/2003
First Named Inventor	Hitoshi Inoue
Examiner Name	
Art Unit	2621
Attorney Docket No.	CFA00050US

## METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check  Credit card  Money Order  Other  None
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number 502456  
Deposit Account Name Canon U. S. A., Inc.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

 Charge fee(s) indicated below  Credit any overpayments  
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)  
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

## FEE CALCULATION

## 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)		
1001 770	2001 385	Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee	
1003 530	2003 265	Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385	Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)			

## 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
			-20** =	X	=
			-3** =	X	=

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)		

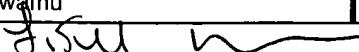
\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

## 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)		
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	180.00
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify) _____			
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid		SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 180.00)	

## SUBMITTED BY

(Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Fidel Nwamu	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,294	Telephone	408-468-2514
Signature				Date	4/7/04

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
2006 edition. 501 forms. GPO: 2006-100-0001. GPO: 2006-100-0001

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**Substitute for form 1449/PTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/702,170
Filing Date	11/4/2003
First Named Inventor	Hitoshi Inoue
Art Unit	2621
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	CFA00050US

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>7</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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